

United States Department of
COMMERCE
NEWS

Washington, D.C. 20230

ECONOMICS
AND
STATISTICS
ADMINISTRATION

U.S. Census Bureau

This release contains sensitive economic
data not to be released before 10:00 a.m. Tuesday,
August 27, 2002

CB-02-110 Press Copy

FT-900A (02-07)



For information contact:

Haydn Mearkle (301) 763-2246

Nick Orsini (301) 763-2311

**Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products
July 2002**

The U.S. Census Bureau, through the Department of Commerce, announced today that preliminary July steel imports were **\$1.0 billion (2.7 million metric tons)**. This was an increase of \$0.1 billion (0.3 million metric tons) from the preliminary June totals of \$0.9 billion (2.4 million metric tons).

The June to July change in steel imports, based on metric tonnage, reflected increases primarily in blooms, billets and slabs; reinforcing bars; and hot rolled sheets. A decrease occurred primarily in wire rods. Monthly changes in steel imports reflected increases primarily with Russia and Germany. Decreases occurred primarily with Turkey and Japan.

The year to date final statistics through June of 2002 showed steel imports of 13.5 million metric tons, an increase of 0.5 million metric tons from the 13.1 million metric tons through June of 2001. The largest commodity increase was in blooms, billets and slabs. The largest country increases were with Brazil and Canada.

Notes:

The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revisions.

Analysis of recent months for steel product imports indicates the value of preliminary data should equal about 96 percent of the final value reported in the regular monthly trade statistics report. Preliminary data reported for individual steel categories and at the individual country of origin level have been less consistently predictive of the final data reported in the regular monthly trade statistics. For further details visit the Foreign Trade Division web site at: www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www/. On the web site you can access product by country and country by product tables.

The next release is September 24, 2002